

## CESSION OF THE DISTRICT

## Removal of the Seat of Government at Washington.

Geological Survey Bulletin Giving an Account of the Boundaries of the United States—Early Act of Congress and of the Legislatures of Maryland and Virginia.

The approach of the Centennial of the Removal of the Seat of Government of the United States to the District of Columbia gives peculiar interest to the chapter on the District of Columbia contained in Geological Survey Bulletin No. 171. This bulletin was recently prepared by Henry Ganett and gives an account of the boundaries of the United States and of the several States and Territories, with a cut-line of the history of all important changes of territory.

On September 5, 1774, the Continental Congress met at Philadelphia. Two years later they adjourned to Baltimore. During the Revolution and subsequent to the treaty of peace they met in various places. After the close of the war much debate took place in regard to the location of a permanent seat of the Government of the United States. Several States made proposals to Congress, offering to cede certain lands for this purpose, but no determination of the location was made by Congress until 1793.

On December 23, 1788, the State of Maryland passed the following act:

"Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the Representatives of this State in the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States, appointed to assemble at New York, on the first Wednesday of March next, be, and they are hereby, authorized and required on behalf of this State to cede to the Congress of the United States, any district in this State not exceeding ten miles square, which the Congress may fix upon and accept for the seat of Government of the United States."

On December 3, 1789, the State of Virginia passed a similar act of which the following is an extract:

"Be it therefore enacted by the General Assembly, That a tract of country not exceeding ten miles square or any lesser quantity, to be located within the limits of the State and in any part thereof as Congress may by law direct, shall be, and the same is hereby, forever ceded and relinquished to the Congress and Government of the United States in full and absolute right and exclusive jurisdiction, as well of said soil as of persons residing or to reside therein, and the same shall be the property of the United States."

After long discussion of the subject in view of the foregoing cessions of Maryland and Virginia, passed the following act:

"An act for establishing the temporary and permanent seat of Government of the United States, approved July 16, 1790."

"Section 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States, in Congress assembled, That a district of territory not exceeding ten miles square, to be located as hereafter directed on the river Potomac, between some place between the mouth of the Eastern Branch and Connochoque, be, and the same is hereby, accepted for the permanent seat of Government of the United States: Provided, nevertheless, that the operation of the laws of the States within such district shall not be affected by this acceptance until the time fixed for the removal of the Government thither, and until Congress shall by law otherwise provide."

"Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That the President of the United States be authorized to appoint, and by supplying vacancies happening from refusal to act or other causes, to keep in appointment as long as may be necessary, three Commissioners, who, or any two of whom, shall, under the direction of the President, survey and by proper notes and bounds define and limit a district of territory under the limitations above mentioned; and the district so defined, limited and located, shall be deemed the district accepted by this act for the permanent seat of the Government of the United States."

"Sec. 3. And be it enacted, That the said Commissioners, or any two of them, shall have power to purchase or accept such quantity of land on the eastern side of the said river within the said district as the President shall deem proper for the use of the United States, and for such plans as the President shall approve. The said Commissioners, or any two of them, shall prior to the first Monday in December next, select a site for suitable buildings for the accommodation of Congress and of the President, and for the public offices of the Government of the United States, and request to accept grants of money."

"Sec. 4. And be it enacted, That prior to the first Monday in December next all offices attached to the Government of the United States shall be removed to and until the first Monday in December in the year 1800, shall remain at the city of Philadelphia, and the city of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, at which place the session of Congress next ensuing the present shall be held."

"Sec. 5. And be it enacted, That on the first Monday in December in the year 1800 the seat of the Government of the United States shall, by virtue of this act, be transferred to the district and place aforesaid. And all offices attached to the Government shall accordingly be removed thereto by their respective holders, and shall, after the said day, cease to be exercised elsewhere; and the necessary expenses of removal shall be defrayed out of the duties on imports and tonnage, of which a sufficient sum is hereby appropriated."

In the following year the foregoing act was amended in order to include a portion of the Anacostia River (Eastern Branch), and the town of Alexandria, within the limits of the District.

The following is the act of amendment: "An act to amend 'An Act for establishing the temporary and permanent seat of Government of the United States,' approved March 3, 1791."

"Be it enacted, etc., That so much of the act entitled 'An Act for establishing the temporary and permanent seat of Government of the United States' as requires that the whole of the district of territory not exceeding ten miles square to be located on the River Potomac for the permanent seat of Government of the United States, shall be located above the mouth of the Eastern Branch, be, and is hereby, repealed, and that it shall be lawful for the President to make any part of the territory below said limit and above the mouth of Hunting Creek a part of the said district so as to include a convenient part of the Eastern Branch and of the lands lying on the lower side thereof; and also the town of Alexandria, and the territory so to be included shall form a part of the district not exceeding ten miles square for the permanent seat of the Government of the United States in like manner, and to all intents and purposes, as if the same had been within the purview of the above recited act: Provided, That nothing herein contained shall authorize the erection of the public buildings otherwise than on the Maryland side of the River Potomac, as required by the aforesaid act."

In pursuance of the foregoing act, three commissioners were appointed, who made preliminary surveys of the territory, and on the 30th day of March, 1791, George Washington, President of the United

States, issued a proclamation in which the bounds of the said district were defined as follows:

"Beginning at Jones Point, being the upper cape of Hunting Creek in Virginia, and at an angle in the outset of forty-five degrees west of the north and running in a direct line ten miles for the first line; then beginning again at the same Jones Point and running another direct line at a right angle with the first across the Potomac ten miles for the second line; then from the terminations of the said first and second lines, running two other direct lines of ten miles each, the one crossing the Potomac and the other the Eastern Branch aforesaid and meeting each other in a point."

In 1800 Congress removed to the district, and in the following year the District was divided into two counties as follows:

"United States Statutes at Large, Sixth Congress, Second Session, 1801, (chapter xv)."

"An Act concerning the District of Columbia. The said District of Columbia shall be formed into two counties. One county shall contain all that part of said District which lies on the east side of the River Potomac, together with the islands therein and shall be called the county of Washington; the other county shall contain all that part of said District which lies on the west side of said river and shall be called the county of Alexandria; and the said river, in its whole course through said District, shall be taken and deemed to all intents and purposes to be within both of said counties."

In 1846 Congress passed an act retroceding to the State of Virginia that part of the District of Columbia, originally ceded to the United States by Virginia. The following is an extract from said act of retrocession:

"That with assent of the people of the county and town of Alexandria, to be ascertained as hereinafter prescribed, all that portion of the District of Columbia ceded to the United States by the State of Virginia, and all the rights and jurisdiction therewith ceded over the same be, and the same are, hereby ceded and forever relinquished to the State of Virginia in full and absolute right and jurisdiction as well of said soil as of persons residing or to reside therein."

## PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY.

Annual Session of the National Grange in Washington.

The thirty-fourth annual session of the National Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry will be held at the National Hotel, this city, and commences Wednesday, November 14, 11 o'clock a. m. The granges of the various States and Territories will be represented by their masters, and, besides, there are many visitors and friends of the association expected to be present and take an interest in the proceedings of the grange. This organization, which first gave women the same privileges and rights as are enjoyed by men, and there are many cases where the wife of a farmer is the sole support of the family as the delegate of the grange of which her husband is a member. Aaron Jones, the Master of the National Grange, will deliver his annual address Wednesday afternoon at 2 o'clock, to which event the public is cordially invited.

While the grange does not teach partisan politics it does impress its members with the responsibility of citizenship and to do all in their power to secure better politics and to see that the interest of the farm is fairly represented. The order has established about 21,000 subordinate granges in all parts of this country and Canada: its receipts during the last year amounted to \$30,818.07; while its expenditures reached the sum of \$21,695.74; leaving a cash balance on hand of \$9,122.33. The conferring upon a number of members of the seventh degree, or the degree of "Demeter," will take place on the evening of November 16, and the ceremony will be conducted publicly.

The officers of the National Grange are: Master, Aaron Jones, South Bend, Ind.; Overseer, O. Gardner, Rockland, Me.; Lecturer, N. J. Bacheider, Concord, N. H.; Steward, J. A. Newcomb, Golden, Col.; Assistant Steward, W. C. Jewett, Worcester, Mass.; Chaplain, S. O. Bowen, Eastford, Conn.; Treasurer, Mrs. Eva S. McDowell, Columbus, Ohio; Gatekeeper, H. E. Huxley, Neenah, Wis.; Ceres, Mrs. Cora della Akesson, Morgantown, W. Va.; Pomona, Mrs. M. M. Wilson, Magnolia, Ill.; Mrs. M. J. High, Vancouver, Wash.; A. Steward, Mrs. A. M. Horton, Fruit Ridge, Mich. The convention will remain in session for about a week.

## LECTURES BY EMINENT MEN.

Work in the Columbian University School of Diplomacy.

The School of Comparative Jurisprudence and Diplomacy of the Columbian University has commenced work with a good attendance of students. Among the faculty is Justice Harlan, who lectures upon "Conflict of Laws," Prof. Joseph French Johnson, of the University of Pennsylvania, who lectures upon "International Law," Gen. John W. Foster, "Diplomacy of the United States," Commissioner Carroll D. Wright, "Statistics and Social Economics," Prof. Joseph French Johnson, of the University of Pennsylvania, who lectures upon "The Law of Ancient Nations," and Roman Law. Class conferences upon this course will commence next week, subjects having been assigned to members of the class for papers. Prof. Charles C. Johnson has commenced a course in "Political History," and a course of lectures upon Political Science will be delivered by distinguished scholars. The class conferences upon this subject will be conducted by Mr. Holcombe.

Hon. David J. Hill, Assistant Secretary of State, will commence his course upon "European Diplomacy" this evening at 8 o'clock. This course will continue through the year.

Thursday evening at 8 o'clock, Secretary Gage will deliver a lecture on "Some Further Thoughts upon Banking and Currency."

## CHANCES FOR APPOINTMENTS.

Examinations to Be Held by the Civil Service Commission.

The Civil Service Commission has arranged to hold a number of examinations during the month of December for various positions in the Government service.

On December 12 examinations will be held as follows: For Railway Mail Clerk, at Albuquerque, New Mexico, and at Tucson, Nogales, Phoenix and Prescott, Arizona; for Printer, Railway Mail Service; Inspector of Textile Factories; Quartermaster's Department at Large; Writer, with a knowledge of French and Spanish.

December 12 and 13—Assistant Operator, Ordnance Department; Clerk, with knowledge of photography and surveying; Engineer Department at Large.

December 12, 13, 14, and 15—Ship Draftsman.

December 15—Chinese Watchman for Customs Service, San Francisco; Tailor, Indian Service.

December 19—First, Second, and Third grade examinations, Custom House, Superior, Wisconsin.

The Vixen Going to Cuba. NORFOLK, Va., Nov. 12.—The auxiliary gunboat Vixen, which has been thoroughly overhauled at the Norfolk Navy Yard, is in Hampton Roads preparing to sail for Cuba to resume work of rechartering the coast of the island.

## SQUEEZED BY THE TRUST

## West Virginia Steel Workers Suffer a Reduction in Wages.

Many Confided in Ante-Election Promises and Voted to Continue the Republican Party in Power. Now Served With Notice That the Rate of Pay Will Be Reduced.

WHEELING, W. Va., Nov. 12.—About six months ago the National Steel Company, the trust which has come into control of a great number of steel works in the country, closed down the plant at Mingo Junction, which it had secured from the Etna Standard Iron and Steel Company. The reason for closing the Mingo plant was that the men presented a request for a change in methods of working which would render the tasks to be done less onerous and give them time for recuperation between turns. Prior to that time the plant had run two twelve-hour turns a day, and it was no uncommon thing for men to faint away while at work. It was such a desperate situation that none but the strongest could stand the work, and nearly all the Americans had given up their employment.

When the request for a change was made the management closed the plant. Reports from time to time have told of what was going on. The plant was surrounded by a high tight-board fence, around the top of which barbed wires were strung, which wires were so arranged that they could be filled with a killing charge of electricity. Every evidence was given the men that any opposition to the will of the trust would be useless and that a strike could not win. All this time extended improvements were under way—not in the steel works, but on other plants inside the big fence.

From time to time lately indications have come from Mingo that if McKinley were elected the trust would resume operations, but if he were not elected the plant might continue to be closed. The men who had asked for earlier conditions of employment were idle all this time and coming nearer and nearer to starvation. Some had been driven from the town, and others had been driven from the hillsides and under the river banks.

When election day came enough of these men voted the Republican ticket to give McKinley a majority in Mingo Junction. The Amalgamated Association's committee, which has been trying to effect a settlement of some sort with the company, were notified that if they would call at the office a proposition would be submitted. They called and received a new scale, prepared by the trust people, which makes a reduction in wages of from 25 to 61 per cent without any reference to the request for shorter hours and easier conditions, which were the cause of the original shut-down. The trust has starved the men to the point where they are supposed to be helpless, and they now propose to enforce an advance of their condition to enforce an advance of their wages. Whether the men will submit has not been determined, but there is some who are able to make a further threat, and submission is likely.

## RETURN OF A POLICE DOG.

A New Rochelle, N. Y., Canine That Helped Make Arrests.

NEW YORK, Nov. 12.—After an absence of two years, "Nig," the old watch dog owned by the New Rochelle Police Department, has returned. Although "Nig" is only a black and tan cur, he enjoys the reputation with the force of being the most intelligent and useful dog in New Rochelle. For years "Nig" was the inseparable companion of the various patrolmen. He was always on hand at roll call at 8 o'clock, and went out and spent the night with the men.

Sometimes in loitering about town he would be a little late, but he would always come running into the stationhouse in time to catch the night patrolmen before they started away. For years he never missed a roll call, for he seemed to know by instinct when it was 8 o'clock. Sgt. Frank Cody was "Nig's" closest friend. When the sergeant was a patrolman the dog would accompany him and make a circuit of every house on his beat. Then he would scour the streets and alleys. If he found a drunken man or suspicious character loitering about until darkened, "Nig" would bark and arrived and took the man in custody. Then he would seize the prisoner by his trouser legs and march along with him to the police station.

The dog helped to arrest so many "drunks" that he could tell one as far as he could see him, and he would frequently bark at a man who was drunk, and when there was not a policeman in sight. On one occasion, according to the police, he actually attempted to take a burglar who had taken refuge under a veranda. He barked loudly. Kelly came running to his assistance, and, slipping the handcuffs on the man, took him to the station. He proved to be a real-time crook, who had operated in New Rochelle two weeks and had given the police a lot of trouble.

"Nig" did not depend upon the police of New Rochelle for his food. He had a wide acquaintance among the butchers of the city, and he dined on the choicest of steaks and chops. He slept at the stationhouse until two years ago, when workmen started to remodel it. It did not please the old dog to see his domicile disturbed, and he slept in other quarters and would come around every day to see if the alterations were finished. Seeing that things were still upset, he would go away looking disappointed. Finally he became disgusted completely, and one day disappeared entirely. On his reappearance at the new headquarters "Nig" was hailed as a genuine joy by all the members of the force, who regard his return as an omen of good luck. He renewed his friendship at once with the old policeman, but he is a little shy of the new ones. It was learned that while "Nig" was away he made his home with a butcher.

## PARIS PRIZES FOR APPLES.

North Carolina Fruit Receives Two Exposition Medals.

RALEIGH, N. C., Nov. 12.—Secretary Bruner, of the State Agricultural Department, is advised by officials of the Paris Exposition that the North Carolina apples which he collected in Yadon county and shipped last September have been awarded two silver medals. The apples exhibited for this State early in the year won several prizes—in fact, nine or ten. Had the largest of the last lot shipped been packed in excelsior they would have won the gold medal. The standard of highest worth is 16, and these Yadon apples scored 15-12.

Secretary Bruner also states that the Immigration Department is in special correspondence with New York capitalists in regard to the matter of reclaiming and improving the flat lands between Goldsboro and Wilmington. That section is becoming the great strawberry ground of this country. The possibilities of further development are almost unlimited.

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## WORKING ON THE DEFENDER.

Captain Herreshoff Said to Be Planning the Cup Yacht.

NEW YORK, Nov. 12.—Indications point to the fact that the work on the new defender of the America's Cup is rapidly going forward at the Herreshoff shops. As announced some time ago, Capt. Nat. Herreshoff began to plan a boat capable of defeating Columbia before the last international races were really over.

That is, he was gathering information from the performance of Columbia which he could reduce to feasible working plans on a moment's notice. Long before Sir Thomas Lipton's challenge was reduced to writing the ever-alert wizard of Bristol had the model of the new boat laid away, ready for the contingency he knew would surely arrive.

The general public is of the opinion that Sir Thomas Lipton overwhelmed the New York Yacht Club with the suddenness of the challenge, and thinks after his own plans were carefully prepared, he caught them napping.

With the exception of the master of Sir Thomas' opponent, everything in connection with the defence of the America's Cup is running before the wind. E. A. Willard is still regarded as the man best fitted for this onerous position, but it is

said by those close to him that he is by no means anxious to assume this exacting duty.

A yachtman yesterday said he thought any friction in the New York Yacht Club as to Mr. Willard's selection was to be deplored at this time, for the reason that it would require a good deal of persuasion to induce him to accept the place, and if he should conclude he was not satisfactory to all parties at interest he would be likely to refuse to consider the matter at all.

If Mr. Willard cannot see his way clear to assisting the club in this matter, it may be compelled to seek in other fields for a manager. Nearly every one here with the requisite experience has been mentioned at one time or another, but in every instance they were unwilling to devote the time and labor necessary for a successful defence.

Yachtmen think, with New York left out of consideration, that Charles Adams, of Boston, has as good a chance, if not better, than any other outsider.

## Safe-Blowers in Raleigh.

RALEIGH, N. C., Nov. 12.—Safe-crackers blew open the safes in the post-office and in the general merchandise store of J. E. Black & Co., at Matthews, N. C., early Saturday morning, and secured nearly \$1,000 in cash. The robbers were tracked to the depot, where they probably took a train passing there at 5:30 a. m.

## A MYSTERIOUS MURDER.

Massachusetts Crime Believed to Have Resulted From Jealousy.

WORCESTER, Mass., Nov. 12.—The police are searching for Oscar Johnson in connection with the murder of Gastat Erickson, who was stabbed to death early Saturday morning in bed at his home. A man answering Johnson's description was arrested in Lincoln and brought here this morning.

Mrs. Erickson, wife of the murdered man, who says the murderer leaped over her body to deal the deathblow, is locked up under suspicion, but professes innocence of complicity in the murder. She says she has not seen Johnson in a year.

Johnson, the police says, asked the woman, then Matilda Malenber, to marry him, two years ago, but she declined and married Erickson. Then, it is said, Johnson made threats against Erickson.

## DUCKLINGS FED THE TROUT.

Fish in a Colorado Hatchery Lived Well for a While.

(From the Denver Post.) Game and Fish Warden Holland, who recently returned from a trip of inspection, says the greediness of the big fish has caused keen disappointment among the Durango fish hatchery employees. The sequestered ponds of the mountain hatchery attract the ducks, which are wont to scuffle down on the limpid sheets of water. A few of them have made their homes there. They are the wood duck, and round the grassy edges of the ponds have laid their eggs in well-hidden nests. The hatchery men, whose eyes are trained by the study of fish eggs and little fish to notice things minute, soon discovered the presence of duck eggs and began a quiet watch of the hatching.

One day recently two egg shells were found broken in a nest and at the edge of the water sat two downy ducklings near the mother duck. Quietly the delighted discoverers approached nearer for a better view. A bunch of reeds softly waving in the faint breeze shielded them in their effort for a few moments, but an unlucky footstep into the shallow water caused an alarming splash. With a quick whirl of her webbed feet the mother duck rose and shot a yard out of the water. There was a loud splash as the big fish fell back and, thoroughly scared, the soft-feathered birds began to paddle desperately for the shore. But fate was against them, and they were not permitted to swim six feet.

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